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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/661,391	09/12/2003	Jeffrey George	60518-167	8434

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EXAMINER

PANDYA, SUNIT

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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3714

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	03/14/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/661,391

Applicant(s)

GEORGE ET AL.

Examiner

Sunit Pandya

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-79 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-79 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 9/12/2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date 1/16/04, 5/20/05, 11/29/05.

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statements (IDS) submitted on 1/16/2004, 5/20/2005 and 11/29/2005 are acknowledged. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 & 1.98. Accordingly, the examiner has considered the information disclosure statements.

Oath/Declaration

Acknowledgement is made of applicant's Oath/Declaration meets standard required by 35 U.S.C. 25 & 115.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1, 2, 6-41 & 45-79 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Miodunski et al. (US Patent 5,833,540).

Claims 1-2, 40-41: Miodunski et al. teaches a remote system for using with a gaming machine for processing a table rating on at least one gaming machine, wherein a host computer is coupled to the gaming machine by a network (abstract). Miodunski et al. discloses a remote device for receiving table rating information and a remote

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network interface coupled to the device for exchanging data between the host computer and the remote device (figure 1 and col. 3: 50-5), wherein the remote device is coupled to the network by a wireless connection (figure 1).

Claims 6-10, 45-48, 72: Miodunski et al. discloses the said remote device having a processor and a web client for interaction, wherein the web-client is use to acquire data from players and formatting the data, wherein the data includes table rating forms (user info to be filled by the user) and the remote device to return the forms back to the network interface, wherein the network interface contains a processor and a web-client for interactions with users (figures 1, 3 & 4 and col. 3-4: 45-18, and col. 5: 26-6).

Claims 11-13, 49-51: Miodunski et al. discloses network interface to confirm that all the information required for the table rating was entered and the information is valid. Once the information has been entered, the host or network interface creates a record for the player (col. 6: 7-58, col. 7: 40-54, 8: 46-53).

Claims 14, 52: Miodunski et al. discloses the retrieving player information from the database as a function of the table rating status, retrieving a status form from the host computer containing the player information and table rating status, and instructing the remote device to display the status form (col. 6: 7-58, col. 7: 40-60).

Claims 15-27, 53-67: Miodunski et al. discloses of table rating status one of an open or closed status, wherein retrieving the closed status form if the status is closed (wherein the closed status form having a button which is de-pressed by the player to close status) and updating the table rating to reflect the closed status or retrieving an open status if the status is open and continuously updating the table rating according to

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the players' performance and updating the table rating information to reflect the status (col. 9: 15-29, 45-13),

Claims 28-29, 68-69: Miodunski et al. discloses a plurality of objects coupled to the database tables for retrieving and storing data (col. 7: 29-39).

Claims 30-39, 71, 73-79: Miodunski et al. discloses of receiving queries from the remote network interface, retrieves responsive data from the database, updating the data (which includes player's name, ID card number and/or other identification numbers) and returning the responsive data to the remote network interface (figure 5 and col. 8: 36-61 and col. 9-10: 3-14).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3-5 and 42-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Miodunski et al. as applied to the claims above.

Claims 3-5, 42-44: Miodunski et al. discloses a remote device for receiving table rating information and a remote network interface coupled to the device for exchanging data between the host computer and the remote device (figure 1 and col. 3: 50-5), wherein the remote device is coupled to the network by a wireless connection (figure 1). Miodunski does not specifically disclose that the connection use the IEEE 802.11 or

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802.11b or 802.11g standard protocols. Industry standards are just that – standard.

One of ordinary skill would have any number of reasons for adopting industry standards.

Standards foster interoperability; lower costs by allowing the purchase of off-the-shelf parts; cut design time, etc. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have modified Miodunski et al. to have used one of the various industry standard communications protocols in order to gain the benefits of adopting industry standards outlined above.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See attached Notice of References Cited page.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sunit Pandya whose telephone number is (571) 272-2823. The examiner can normally be reached on M - F: 8 am - 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Robert Pezzuto can be reached on (571) 272-6996. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

SP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Corbett B. Coburn", followed by a stylized flourish or checkmark.

**CORBETT B. COBURN
PRIMARY EXAMINER**